

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2011
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB229

Hearing Date: Wednesday January 19, 2011
Committee On: Natural Resources
Introducer: Fischer
One Liner: Transfer funds from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund to the Water Resources Cash Fund

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye:	7	Senators Carlson, Christensen, Dubas, Langemeier, McCoy, Schilz, Smith
Nay:	1	Senator Haar
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:		

Proponents:

Senator Deb Fischer
Steve Nelson
Brian Dunnigan
Ron Bishop
Jasper Fanning
Kyle Kinyoun
Chuck Folken
Geoff Ruth
Carl Sousek
Kristen Gottschalk
Josh Andersen

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Farm Bureau
Department of Natural Resources
Self
Self
Self
Nebraska Cattlemen
Nebraska Soybean Association
Nebraska Corn Growers Association
Nebraska Rural Electric Association
Self

Opponents:

Mark Brohman
Ken Winston
John Knapp
Bruce Kennedy
Stanford Mark Olson
Cara Brenner
Laura Tegtmeier
Dale Gubbels
Carrie Hakenkamp
Rob Schupbach
Steve Donovan
Marty Grate
Wes Sheets

Brian Bashore
Rosina Paolini

Representing:

Nebraska Environmental Trust
Nebraska Chapter, Sierra Club
Self
Wachiska Audubon Society
Nebraska Trout Unlimited
Nebraska League of Conservation Voters
Self
Nebraska League of Conservation Voters
WasteCap Nebraska
Self
Ducks Unlimited
City of Omaha
Nebraska Division, Izaak Walton League; Nebraska Sportsmens Foundation
Nebraska Wildlife Federation
Self

Jerry McDonald
Brad Mellema
Steve Moran
Lynn Johnson
Larry Hutchinson
Dan King
Ron Patterson
Jason Skold

Pheasants Forever; Quail Forever
Self
Self
City of Lincoln
Nebraska Chapter, American Fisheries Society
Boy Scout Troop 61
Self
The Nature Conservancy

Neutral:

Dave Sands
Dean Edson
Scott Hygnstrom

Representing:

Nebraska Land Trust
Nebraska Association of Resources Districts
Self

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 229 transfers funds from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund to the Water Resources Cash Fund.

Section 1 amends Section 61-218, which creates the Water Resources Cash Fund, by adding to the purposes for which the fund may be expended, activities to facilitate compliance with the Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act.

Section 2 amends Section 81-15,174, which creates the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund, by eliminating obsolete language, and adding language requiring the State Treasurer to transfer \$7 million from the Environmental Trust to the Water Resources Cash Fund every July 1 from 2011 to 2021.

Section 3 repeals the original sections.

Section 4 adds an emergency clause.

Explanation of amendments:

AM281 eliminates the Legislature's authority to make transfers from the Water Resources Cash Fund to the General Fund, and allows expenditures from the Water Resources Cash Fund to be used for management actions to reduce consumptive use of water or to enhance streamflows. The amendment replaces the "and" with "or".

Chris Langemeier, Chairperson